

## PSC NEWS Missouri Public Service Commission

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## PSC APPROVES UNION ELECTRIC/GASCOSAGE APPLICATION

Jefferson City (January 25, 2002)---The Missouri Public Service Commission has approved an application which authorizes Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE and Gascosage Electric Cooperative to: (1) change the electric service supplier from AmerenUE to Gascosage Electric Cooperative for approximately 1,200 structures in and around the City of Brumley and the City of Ulman; (2) sell, transfer and assign certain substations and electric distribution facilities, easements and other rights of AmerenUE generally constituting the Company's electric utility business associated with the structures to Gascosage Electric Cooperative; and (3) modify a current territorial agreement which designates the boundaries of each electric supplier in Camden and Miller Counties.

The Public Service Commission determined, based upon evidence filed in this case, that: 1) approval of the territorial agreement would avoid future duplication of facilities; 2) AmerenUE and Gascosage Electric Cooperative are capable of adequately and safely providing the electric power supply, service and maintenance needs of customers in their service areas as designated in the proposed amended territorial agreement; and 3) the effect on current customers of Gascosage Electric Cooperative was positive. The Commission noted in its order: "Gascosage presented testimony that no rate increase was expected to its current customers because of the proposed amendment to the territorial agreement. Gascosage and AmerenUE also presented substantial evidence that many of Gascosage's current customers would benefit from proposed future improvements to the system."

The Commission further noted in its decision: "The Commission has considered all the relevant evidence related to the effect on current customers of AmerenUE and Gascosage including rate increases and decreases, increased efficiency, and increased reliability. Even though some customers may face increased rates, the Commission finds that based on the evidence in this record, the overall effect of the amendment to the territorial agreement and the transfer of assets would not be detrimental to the public interest. The Commission also finds that the change of electric supplier is in the public interest."